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FOR ACTION

RECOMMENDATION TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

UNICEF Maurice Pate Award

SUMMARY

The Executive Director recommends that, for 1995, the UNICEF Maurice Pate Award be granted to Professor Ihsan Dogramaci of Turkey, and that the Executive Board approve an allocation of $25,000 from general resources for this purpose.

1. Nominations for the 1995 UNICEF Maurice Pate Award were invited from Executive Board member Governments, UNICEF offices and National Committees for UNICEF. A total of 14 nominations were received, as follows: five from Africa, one from the Americas and the Caribbean, four from Asia, one from Europe/North America, and three from the Middle East and North Africa.

2. The Bureau first discussed the 1995 award at a meeting on 30 September 1994. All 14 nominations were presented to the Bureau at its meeting on 4 October 1994. At the request of the Bureau, the Executive Director provided a short list of four nominees, which was reviewed by the Bureau at its meeting on 5 October 1994. While recognizing that all the nominees are worthy of recognition, the Executive Director, with the endorsement of the Bureau, recommends that the UNICEF Maurice Pate Award for 1995 be awarded to Professor Ihsan Dogramaci of Turkey in recognition of his outstanding contribution in the fields of public health and child survival and development. Professor Dogramaci's pioneering efforts, which span over 50 years, have benefited millions of children in Turkey and throughout the world.

3. Born in 1915, Ihsan Dogramaci began his collaboration with UNICEF in 1959, when Maurice Pate was the Executive Director. He was twice elected Chairman of the Executive Board, in 1968 and 1969, and also served as Chairman of the Programme Committee in 1966 and 1967. Professor Dogramaci currently has the distinction of being the longest-serving delegate to the Executive Board. He has been President of the Turkish National Committee for UNICEF since 1958.

4. In keeping with his commitment to improve national health services, particularly paediatric services, in 1963 he founded in Ankara the Faculty of Medicine at Haceteppe, which four years later became a full-fledged university. Today, Haceteppe University is the country's leading medical school. Its integrated teaching system has revolutionized the training of health-care personnel and led to the establishment of medical faculties in the provincial cities of Erzurum, Eskisehir, Kayseri, Samsun, Sivas and Trabzon. In 1985 he founded Turkey's first private non-medical university, Bilkent, which has over 30,000 students. He still serves as President and Chairman of the University's Board of Trustees. His tireless devotion to the cause of children and his activism in the field of paediatrics have been a source of inspiration for generations of students.

5. Over the years, Professor Dogramaci has been the prime mover in a number of major activities related to the well-being of children. In 1985 he was central to the success of the internationally recognized national immunization campaign in Turkey, enlisting the participation of the President and Prime Minister. He personally generated and hosted a series of events to launch the campaign, including a meeting of all of the country's 67 regional governors. To support such global activities as the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative and the publication of international child health periodicals, he promoted the establishment of a joint task force of the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF and the International Paediatrics Association (IPA), which meets annually.

6. Always at the forefront of reforms in education and health, Professor Dogramaci has been a senior adviser to the Government of Turkey,

assisting in the introduction of progressive health policies for women and children. Throughout the 1980s, Professor Dogramaci served as President of Turkey's Higher Education Council, a body formed by the Government to balance and expand the Turkish university system. During his tenure, more than a dozen new universities were established outside the traditional academic centres of Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir.

7. Professor Dogramaci's determination to give priority to the needs of women and children is evident in his multifaceted activities and the alliances he has forged over the years. As Turkey's chief delegate to the World Health Assembly from 1976 to 1981, he served as its Vice-President in 1976 and was a member of several WHO advisory committees during the 1970s and 1980s. He was President of IPA from 1968 to 1977 and IPA Executive Director from 1977 to 1993 and was named IPA Honourary President for life in 1992. Professor Dogramaci is also President of the Turkish and International Children's Centre in Ankara.

8. In November 1992, Professor Dogramaci joined the UNICEF Executive Director on a visit to Sarajevo which culminated in a cease-fire that permitted the distribution of medical supplies and children's clothing to the besieged city. In 1993 and 1994, he guided and supported the establishment of national paediatric societies in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, and brought members of those societies to international paediatric meetings in Izmir and Tashkent.

9. Despite his many commitments, Professor Dogramaci has contributed over 80 scholarly articles to periodicals on paediatrics, public health and medical education. In addition to two books on child health and the care of premature babies, he has written about subjects as diverse as child labour and metabolic disorders. His international reputation for distinguished public service has been recognized in over a dozen countries. He has been awarded honourary degrees and such decorations as the French Legion of Honour, Turkey's National Award for Distinguished Services and the WHO Leon Bernard Foundation Prize.

Background of the Award

10. At a special session on 11 November 1965, the Executive Board approved the recommendation of the Executive Director that the Nobel Peace Prize money received by UNICEF be used to establish a fund in memory of Maurice Pate, the first Executive Director of UNICEF (E/ICEF/537). Approval in principle was also given to a suggestion that the fund be used to strengthen the training or experience of people serving in child welfare-related fields in countries with which UNICEF was cooperating. It was believed that a memorial fund which contributed actively to the general purpose of UNICEF would have particularly appealed to Mr. Pate.

11. In May 1966, the Board approved a plan submitted by the Executive Director (E/ICEF/542, paras. 76-83) for a memorial fund that would give recognition to the value of regional training facilities in fields benefiting children. Each year the fund would honour an institution in a developing country which adapted and offered its services to people from countries in the region. The

institution selected would be given some modest assistance to strengthen its services to other developing countries.

12. By the end of 1978, the original funding and contributions for this Award were exhausted and, in 1979, the Executive Board approved the continuation of the Award from general resources (E/ICEF/P/L.1906 (REC)).

13. At its 1988 session, the Executive Board approved the recommendation that the Board confer annually the UNICEF Maurice Pate Award, as detailed in document E/ICEF/1988/P/L.37, for extraordinary and exemplary leadership in, and contribution to, the advancement of the survival, protection and development of children, whether on a national, regional or global scale. The Award could be conferred upon an institution, organization or individual with or without government affiliation. A timetable and procedures for the nomination and selection process were to be established by the secretariat (see E/ICEF/1988/13, annex I, paras. 45-47, and decision 1988/9).

14. By broadening the criteria for recognition to include (a) achievements on behalf of children, (b) provision of resources to further those achievements and (c) the creation of examples lending themselves to emulation, the Executive Board can use the Award to encourage significant efforts on behalf of children. While encouraging leadership for children by individuals, the monetary benefits of the Award can be used to further relevant activities, whether training, experience exchange or direct programme activity.

15. The Executive Board reviewed and revised the selection process and criteria in 1989, 1990, 1991 and 1994. The latest procedures and criteria as approved by the Board are contained in document E/ICEF/1994/L.16. According to those procedures, nominations shall be sought from the Governments of Board member countries, UNICEF representatives, regional directors and other secretariat offices and National Committees for UNICEF, and the Bureau shall review all nominations. The Award may not be conferred upon any Government or head of State or Government or upon any United Nations organization or official. The main criteria for the Award are: (a) extraordinary and exemplary leadership in, and contribution to, the advancement of the survival, protection and development of children; (b) innovative and inspirational work; (c) action on a national or regional scale with the potential for emulation; and (d) action that serves to encourage voluntary and grass-roots activities. Lastly, due regard shall be given to equitable geographical balance.

16. The UNICEF Maurice Pate Award has been given as follows:

Year	Institution	Region
Prior to 1980	Various institutions	Africa, Asia, the Americas and Caribbean, Middle East and North Africa, industrialized countries and global
1981	College of Health Sciences, Bahrain	Middle East and North Africa
1982	University of the West Indies (regional institution)	Americas and the Caribbean
1983	Pan-African Institute for Development	Africa
1984	International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh	Global
1985	National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, India	South Central Asia
1986	The League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	Global
1987	The Catholic Church of El Salvador	Americas and the Caribbean
1988	Pembinaan Kesejahteraan Keluarga (Family Welfare Movement), Indonesia	East Asia and Pakistan
1989	Madame Suzanne Mubarak, Egypt	Middle East and North Africa
1990	Professor Olikoye Ransome-Kuti, Nigeria	West and Central Africa
1991	Child-to-Child Trust, United Kingdom	Industrialized countries
1992	Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee, Bangladesh	South Asia
1993	The People and State of Ceara, Brazil	Americas and the Caribbean
1994	All-China Women's Federation, China	East Asia and the Pacific

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